



# THE VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER @NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE



NORTHERN New Mexico College



# OUR MISSION

- The Veterans Resource Center at Northern provides Veterans of all ages, and their families, with the resources that assist them in transitioning from active duty, Guard, and Reserves, to the life of a civilian. The Center encourages clients to obtain an academic credential.





# ABOUT US

- The center's \$125,000 budget was established by the state legislature.
- Northern currently serves more than 80 student veterans and dependents

Note: Rio Arriba is home to more than 2,600 veterans



# WHAT WE DO



- The VRC serves both Northern students and the community at large and connects clients to the services they need.
- For students, academic and advisement support as well as financial aid is provided.
- The VRC also offers information about everything from rehabilitation therapy and healthcare to job placement.

# GOALS



- Provide Veterans of all ages, and their families, with the resources that assist them in transitioning from active duty, Guard, and Reserves, to the life of a civilian.
- Encourage Veterans, and their families, to obtain the academic credential that advance their careers.
- Further establish Northern New Mexico College as a veteran friendly institution.
- Remove barriers that often hinder Veterans from achieving their goals.
- Make higher education highly accessible, and to make the college-going process as smooth as possible.
- Increase admissions, retention and graduation rates among veterans and their dependents.

# SERVICES

- School Certification
- Veterans Benefit Information
- Academic Advisement
- Scholarship Information
- Referral Services
- Student Organization
- Student Advocacy
- Xerox & Telephone Services
- Employment Opportunities





# CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Increase visibility on campus and community
  - Participation with applicable events
  - Promotional materials
  - Signage and advertisement
- Social media and Email correspondence
  - VRC/NNMC website
  - Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- Host campus and community events/trainings
  - Veterans Day Ceremony
  - PTSD Resiliency Training
- Follow up
  - Phone calls and other communications



# STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA (SVA)



## ■ MISSION

The NNMC - Student Veteran's of America organization creates an environment of encouragement; addresses our Veteran's unique needs, with the goal of helping them attain their educational aspirations; and ensure student success by providing access to affordable, community-based learning opportunities that meet the educational, cultural, and economic needs of the region.



# ■ SVA INITIATIVES

- Raise funds for Veterans Foundation Scholarship
- Work with the VRC at Northern to provide Veteran students and dependents with services and peer mentoring
- Attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual SVA Conference in Orlando, FL in January 2016
- Represent Northern Student Veterans at campus and community events.



# VRC FUTURE INITIATIVES



- Counseling/mentoring hours
- Data collection and analysis on VRC impact
- Provide student Veterans with leadership opportunities
- Organize, host, and co-sponsor campus and community events including a Resiliency Training for individuals who suffer PTSD
- Staff development - professional development, trainings, focus groups, and effective communication
- Continue to grow the VRC as a welcoming environment for Veterans and their families



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